

*Maritime OPINTEL Report*

**(U) WORLDWIDE: Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS)  
Report**

***10 March 2013 – 10 April 2013***

11 April 2013

*Maritime Crime/Piracy***(U) Table of Contents**

- 1. (U) Scope Note**
- 2. (U) Summary**
- 3. (U) Counter-Piracy and Maritime Crime Announcements and Advisories**
- 4. (U) Details: Monthly Incidents by Region**
- 5. (U) Appendix A: Further Contact Information and Resources**
- 6. (U) Appendix B: Terminology and References**

**1. (U) Scope Note**

(U) The Worldwide Threat to Shipping (WTS) message provides information on threats to, and criminal action against, merchant vessels worldwide in the last 30 days. This report is produced primarily to inform merchant mariners and naval forces.

**2. (U) Summary**

1. (U) VIETNAM: On 09 April, a berthed bulk carrier was boarded at the Ho Chi Minh Port.

2. (U) INDONESIA: On 06 April, an anchored tanker was boarded at the Belawan Anchorage.

3. (U) INDIA: On 05 April, an anchored tanker experienced an attempted boarding at the Visakhapatnam Anchorage.

4. (U) INDONESIA: On 04 April, an anchored tanker was boarded at the Dumai Anchorage.

5. (U) INDONESIA: On 03 April, an anchored tanker experienced a suspicious approach at the Dumai Anchorage.

**3. (U) Counter-Piracy and Maritime Crime Announcements and Advisories**

A. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Government of Japan convoy schedule for April 2013.

Merchant vessels that wish to apply for JMSDF escort operation should visit

[http://www.mlit.go.jp/en/maritime/maritime\\_fr2\\_000000.html](http://www.mlit.go.jp/en/maritime/maritime_fr2_000000.html), please contact directly the Anti-Piracy Contact and Coordination Office, Maritime Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MILT), Japan: Tel: +81-3-5253-8932 Fax: +81-3-5253-1643 Email:

INFO-PIRACY@mlit.go.jp (MSCHOA).

B. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Korean Navy convoy schedule for April and May 2013. All merchant vessels wishing to join the convoy group must submit their application forms directly to the ROK naval warship carrying out the mission. The ROK MTG can be reached directly at (INMARSAT: 870-773-110-299), (Email: rokcheonghae@gmail.com) (MSCHOA).

C. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Chinese Navy convoy schedule for April and May 2013. For further information, please e-mail cnmrcc@msa.gov.cn, cnmrcc@mot.gov.cn, or call Tel: 86-10-652-92221 Fax: 86-10-652-92245 (MSCHOA).

D. (U) GULF OF ADEN: Indian Navy convoy escort schedule for April and May 2013. To register, email antipiracyescort@dgshipping.com or dgcommcentre@satyammail.net, or visit www.dgshipping.com. Telephone numbers for contact are: 91-22-22614646 or fax at 91-22- 22613636 (MSCHOA).

#### **4. (U) Details: Monthly Incidents by Region**

(U) This section lists reports of active violence against shipping, credible threats to shipping, or the potential for a situation to develop into a direct threat to shipping over the last 30 days. Designation of a high-threat area is based on an assessment of all source information relating to the existence of, or potential for, piracy and other crime, terrorism, civil unrest, or low-intensity conflict. Every effort is made to ensure that incidents are not double-counted. In the event double-counting is detected, or an incident is later learned to be different than initially reported, an explanation of the cancellation of the inaccurate report will be made in at least one message prior to dropping the erroneous report.

A. (U) **NORTH AMERICA**: No current incidents to report.

B. (U) **CENTRAL AMERICA–CARIBBEAN**: No current incidents to report.

C. (U) **SOUTH AMERICA**:

(U) **COLOMBIA**: On 16 March, the anchored bulk carrier CAROLINE OLDENDORFF was boarded at 11:08 N – 074:16 W, at the Puerto Prodeco Anchorage. Duty officer onboard an anchored bulk carrier noticed an unidentified person on the forecastle and immediately informed the deck security guard and port security guard to investigate. When they arrived at the forecastle they noticed two robbers climbing down the anchor chain and trying to escape by swimming in heavy seas and swell. One of the robbers was rescued by throwing a lifebuoy while the other disappeared out of sight. Later, the robber was taken ashore by security. The boarding resulted in a failed robbery attempt. (IMB, IMO)

D. (U) **ATLANTIC OCEAN AREA**: No current incidents to report.

E. (U) **NORTHERN EUROPE–BALTIC**: No current incidents to report.

F. (U) **MEDITERRANEAN–BLACK SEA**: No current incidents to report.

**G. (U) WEST AFRICA:**

1. (U) NIGERIA: On 30 March, the tanker SEA HERMES was fired upon at 03:57 N – 006:41 E, approximately 22 nm south-southwest of Bonny. A small skiff containing 8-10 pirates was sighted fast approaching the tankers starboard bow. Master and D/O flashed a light and shouted on the suspicious craft. Upon seeing the crew's alertness, the suspicious craft immediately moved away while firing upon the ship. No crew injuries sustained. Bullet marks in starboard bridge wing, accommodation, and one floodlight. (IMB)

2. (U) IVORY COAST: On 24 March, the berthed cargo ship OCEAN CHARGER was boarded in the vicinity of 05:17 N – 004:01 W, at the Abidjan Port. Shore security guard on board a berthed general cargo ship noticed two robbers on the aft mooring stations. He immediately informed the duty officer who alerted the Master and other crew members. On seeing the alerted crew the robbers jumped overboard and escaped in their small boat. Port control was informed who later informed the Master that the robbers were detained and stolen items recovered. (IMB, IMO)

**H. (U) INDIAN OCEAN–EAST AFRICA:**

1. (U) INDIA: On 05 April, the anchored tanker NEW CENTURY experienced an attempted boarding at 17:39 N – 083:24 E, at the Visakhapatnam Anchorage. Seven robbers in three fishing boats approached an anchored tanker. Two robbers managed to reach the ship rails using hooks attached to heaving lines but were noticed by the alert duty crew who raised the alarm and prevented their gaining access to the ship decks. The robbers moved away from the boat and waited a short distance away. Incident reported to port control and a patrol boat came and searched the waters around the tanker. (IMB, IMO)

2. (U) SOMALIA: On 02 April, the cargo ship ALPHA KIRAWIRA was fired upon at 00:52 N – 044:01 E, approximately 13nm South of Baraawe. Around seven to eight armed pirates in a skiff approached and fired upon a general cargo ship underway. The on board armed security team fired warning shots resulting in the pirates moving away. (IMB, IMO, NSC)

3. (U) SOMALIA: On 28 March, a fishing vessel was hijacked at 11:52 N – 051:18 E, Off Raas Casey. Pirates boarded and hijacked a fishing vessel and took her 20 crew members hostage. Fishing vessel was rescued on the same day. The vessel and crew members were safe and proceeded to a safe port. (IMB)

4. (U) EGYPT: On 26 March, a berthed container ship was boarded at 31:14 N – 032:18 E, at the Port Said West Terminal. Six robbers in a boat armed with knives came alongside a berthed Container ship. Four robbers boarded the vessel and injured an on-board security guard. The robbers stole ship's stores and transferred them into their boat. The incident was reported to the local police. (IMB)

5. (U) YEMEN: On 25 March, an underway tanker experienced a suspicious approach at 14:01 N – 051:33 E, approximately 141 nm south-southwest of Al Mukalla, Yemen. Group closed to within 8 cables of tanker, AST stood to and displayed weapons resulting in the approach being aborted and moving away on near-reciprocal course and speed of original approach. Dhow had a

light-colored hull and skiffs were dark-colored. No personnel sighted on the dhow, but 2-3 POBs on each skiff. No weapons or other paraphernalia sighted. (OCL)

6. (U) TANZANIA: On 24 March, the berthed container ship JPO SAGITTARIUS was boarded in the vicinity of 06:50 S – 039:17 E, at the Dar es Salaam Port, Berth No. 11. A robber boarded a berthed container ship via the forward mooring ropes. The duty A/B noticed the robber who threatened the A/B with a long knife. The A/B then immediately ran away and reported to the SSO who in turn raised alarm and informed the port control. Upon hearing the alarm and seeing the crew's alertness, the robber jumped into the sea and escaped empty handed in his boat. Shore security guards came on board for investigation. (IMB, IMO)

7. (U) GULF OF ADEN: On 14 March, the underway tanker ORANGE STARS experienced a suspicious approach at 13:39 N – 050:48 E, approximately 107 nm south-southeast of Al Mukalla, Yemen. Four suspicious dhows along with skiffs were noticed by a tanker underway. From this group one skiff approached the tanker at high speed. Alarm sounded and nonessential crew retreated to the citadel. As the skiff approached weapons and a ladder were sighted in the skiff. Onboard armed security team fired one warning shot resulting in the skiff stopping and turning back to regroup with the rest. (IMB, IMO)

I. (U) **PERSIAN GULF**: No current incidents to report.

J. (U) **SOUTHEAST ASIA**:

1. (U) VIETNAM: On 09 April, robbers boarded the berthed bulk carrier WESTGATE at 10:34 N – 107:01 E, at the Ho Chi Minh Port and stole items from the vessel. They robbers escaped undetected. (IMB, IMO)

2. (U) INDONESIA: On 06 April, robbers boarded the anchored tanker MAERSK BERING at 03:56 N – 098:41 E, at the Belawan Anchorage and stole items from the vessel. The robbery was reported to authorities and local agent. The local agent subsequently informed the Master that the robber's representative was willing to sell back the stolen items to the Master. (IMB, IMO)

3. (U) INDONESIA: On 04 April, robbers boarded the anchored crude oil tanker GARDEN CITY RIVER at 01:42 N – 101:29 E, at the Dumai Anchorage. The robbers stole engine spares and escaped unnoticed. The theft was not detected until the following day when bare foot prints were noticed near the store. Incident reported to the local authorities through the agents. (IMB, IMO)

4. (U) INDONESIA: On 03 April, four men in a small boat approached the anchored chemical tanker IVER EXACT at 01:42 N – 101:25 E, at the Dumai Anchorage. Upon detecting the boat, the duty officer, shouted at them using loudhailer and flashed a light. The watchman blew ship's horn. The robbers subsequently departed the area. (IMB, IMO, OCL)

5. (U) INDONESIA: On 03 April, the anchored bulk carrier SHER E PUNJAB was boarded at 01:43 S – 116:38 E, at the Adang Bay Anchorage. Two robbers armed with a gun and knives boarded a bulk carrier from the forecandle and made the duty crew hostages at knife point. D/O called him on walkie-talkie but did not receive any response. Another crewman was sent

immediately to check the forward. When he arrived the duty crew was found tied-up. The D/O was alerted and he raised the alarm. Two speed boats were seen departing from the vessel. All crew mustered and went forward to investigate. It was found ship's stores had been stolen from the forward store. (IMB, IMO)

6. (U) SINGAPORE: On 30 March, the tug BOURBON LIBERTY 308 was boarded approximately 50 nm off the northeast coast. Reportedly, pirates boarded the vessel and left several hours later, presumably after robbing the crew and stealing vessel's valuables. No-one among the 14 crew members, which included one Ukrainian and 13 Indian nationals, was injured. After a few hours, the ship is reported to have continued its way to port in Singapore. (OCL, AP)

7. (U) INDONESIA: On 29 March, an anchored bulk carrier was boarded at 01:11 S – 117:16 E, at the Belawan Anchorage. Two robbers armed with long knives boarded a bulk carrier and stole ship's stores from the forecastle store. They were spotted by the crew and the alarm was raised. The robbers escaped with the stolen stores. (IMB)

8. (U) INDONESIA: On 27 March, an anchored bulk carrier was boarded at 03:56 N – 098:47 E, at the Belawan Anchorage. Robbers boarded a bulk carrier and stole ship's stores from forecastle bosun store and escaped. The theft was discovered after the robbers had left the vessel. (IMB)

9. (U) INDONESIA: On 26 March, the anchored bulk carrier MOSOR was boarded at 03:40 S – 114:26 E, at the Taboneo Anchorage. Robbers boarded an anchored bulk carrier and were noticed by the alert duty crew who informed the D/O. Alarm raised and crew alerted. Upon seeing the alert crew, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped. (IMB, IMO)

10. (U) BANGLADESH: On 25 March, three fishing trawlers were hijacked in the vicinity of 21:26 N – 091:35 E, approximately 20 nm off the coast of Cox's Bazaar. A gang of 20-25 pirates attacked the 34 fishermen onboard the three trawlers. The crews were beaten, shot with rubber bullets, had their arms and legs bound, and then thrown overboard. Three of the crew managed to get away, later saved by other fishermen. Currently, 21 bodies have been recovered, while 10 are still missing. (AP)

11. (U) INDONESIA: On 25 March, the anchored cargo ship PANDURATA was boarded at 01:42 N – 101:27 E, at the Dumai Inner Anchorage. Five robbers armed with knives and guns boarded an anchored general cargo ship. The robbers took four crew members on duty hostage and tied their hands with rope. Two of the crew taken as hostage, were forced to lead the robbers to the engine room store, which was then forced open and ship property stolen. The alarm was raised by the hostage crew after the robbers escaped. The authorities were informed via ship's agent. (IMB, IMO)

12. (U) INDONESIA: On 24 March, a container ship was boarded at 05:59 S – 106:54 E, at the Tanjung Priok Anchorage. During a routine round, the ship's crew found the steering gear room open and it was discovered that some items inside the store were missing. After investigation the incident was reported to the coast guard. (IMB)

13. (U) INDONESIA: On 23 March, an anchored tanker was boarded at 01:42 N – 101:28 E, at

the Dumai Anchorage. Five robbers armed with long knives in a small boat, boarded the vessel from stbd quarter using a rope. The watchman was tied up with ropes. He was found lying down with his hands tied up when the forward watchman went to replace him. The duty officer was immediately informed. The alarm was raised and the crew was mustered on deck. A small wooden boat was seen leaving the vessel. Upon investigation it was found nothing had been stolen. (IMB)

14. (U) BANGLADESH: On 22 March, the anchored tanker NORD OPTIMISER was boarded at 22:15 N – 091:44 E, at the Chittagong Anchorage. Robbers boarded a product tanker during anchoring operations. They stole ship's stores and properties before escaping, upon seeing the crew members returning after anchoring. Port authorities, coast guard, and agent informed. (IMB, IMO)

15. (U) INDONESIA: On 21 March, the anchored bulk carrier GLOBAL ANDES was boarded at 07:05 S – 112:39 E, at the Gresik Inner Anchorage. Four robbers boarded the bulk carrier, forced their way into the forward store, and stole ship's property. When noticed by the crew, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped. Port control informed. (IMB, IMO)

16. (U) INDONESIA: On 14 March, the anchored bulk carrier KILIAN S was boarded at 01:40 S – 116:39 E, approximately 25 nm south-southwest of the Balikpapan Port. Three robbers armed with long knives boarded an anchored bulk carrier. The alert duty seaman spotted the robbers attempting to enter the forecastle store and informed the D/O, who raised the alarm and sounded the forward fog horn. Seeing the alerted crew mustered and proceeding towards the forecastle, the robbers jumped overboard and escaped. Pilot station and all vessels at Adang Bay alerted. The crew did not sustain any injuries and no property was stolen. (IMB, IMO, OCL)

17. (U) INDONESIA: On 12 March, robbers boarded the chemical tanker PRINCES PARK in the vicinity of 03:56 N – 098:47 E, at the Belawan Anchorage. Pirates stole ship's stores and escaped unnoticed. (IMB, IMO)

K. (U) **NORTH ASIA**: No current incidents to report.

L. (U) **PACIFIC-ANTARCTIC OCEAN**: No current incidents to report.

M. (U) **ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC NON-STATE ACTIVIST GROUPS**: No current incidents to report.

## 5. (U) **Appendix A: Further Contact Information and Resources**

(U) This appendix provides contact information for the author of the WTS as well as other entities that can be contacted with maritime crime reports. It also lists other resources where the WTS is posted and where piracy and maritime crime incident information can be found.

### (U) **Contact**

(U) Originator of this WTS report requests consumer feedback. Originator will incorporate all anti-shipping events and violence against the maritime industry into this weekly message where



appropriate. To aid in our reporting, please add the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) to your normal corporate and organizational reporting requirements. The 24-hour watch can be reached at +1 (301) 669-4053.

## (U) Other Resources

(U) This Worldwide Threat to Shipping Report is posted at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency's Maritime Safety site: <http://msi.nga.mil/NGAPortal/MSI.portal>. The International Maritime Bureau (IMB) also publishes a live piracy report based on reporting from the IMB Piracy Reporting Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, listing all piracy and armed robbery incidents in the last ten days: <http://www.icc-ccs.org/>. The PAWW and WTS Reports are posted weekly on the ONI Intel Portal: [http://www.oni.navy.mil/Intelligence\\_Community/piracy.htm](http://www.oni.navy.mil/Intelligence_Community/piracy.htm)

## 6. (U) Appendix B: Terminology and References

(U) This appendix is provided to promote consistent use of accurate terms of reference in reporting and also identifies those references that were used to gather the information contained in this report. ONI welcomes comment and suggestions for addition or amendment.

### (U) Terminology

(U) In order to promote consistent use of accurate terms of reference, the following have been adopted to describe the range of criminal anti-shipping activity and impediments to safe navigation in our worldwide reporting and analysis. Please note that these terms relate to observable activity and are independent of target vessel status and exclude actions by governmental powers in lawful pursuit of their authorities:

- (U) **Attempted Boarding** – Close approach or hull-to-hull contact with report that boarding paraphernalia were employed or visible in the approaching boat.
- (U) **Blocking** – Hampering safe navigation, docking, or undocking of a vessel as a means of protest.
- (U) **Boarding** – Unauthorized boarding of a vessel by persons not part of its complement without successfully taking control of the vessel.
- (U) **Firing Upon** – Weapons discharged at or toward a vessel.
- (U) **Hijacking** – Unauthorized seizure and retention of a vessel by persons not part of its complement.
- (U) **Kidnapping** – Unauthorized forcible removal of persons belonging to the vessel from it.
- (U) **Robbery** – Theft from a vessel or from persons aboard the vessel.
- (U) **Suspicious Approach** – All other unexplained close proximity of an unknown vessel.

## (U) Sourcing

(U) ONI derives information in this report from direct reporting and analysis of reports from the following agencies and commercial sources.

- Agence France Presse (AFP)
- Associated Press (AP)
- BBC News (BBC)
- Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO), Denmark (BIMCO)
- EU Naval Forces (EU)
- Fairplay (FP), London
- International Maritime Bureau (IMB), London and Kuala Lumpur
- International Maritime Organization (IMO), London
- Informa Group (INFO), formerly LLP, Llp Limited, London
- Latitude38.com (LAT), website
- Lloyd's List (LL), daily, London
- Local media (LM)
- Maritime Administration (MARAD), US
- Maritime Security Council (MSC), US
- Maritime Security Centre – Horn of Africa (MSCHOA), Northwood
- MaRisk by Risk Intelligence (Risk Intelligence/MaRisk)
- Noonsite.com (Noonsite), website
- North Atlantic Treaty Organization Shipping Center (NSC), Brussels
- National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), Navigation Safety System
- Oceanuslive.org (OCL), website
- Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) (analysis and comment)
- Operator (owner or operator of affected vessel)
- Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC), US
- United States Coast Guard (USCG)
- Royal Australian Navy (RAN)
- Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia, Information Sharing Center (ReCAAP ISC)
- Reuters
- Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN)
- Seafarers' Assistance Program (SAP), Kenya
- Tradewinds (TW)
- United Kingdom Maritime Trade Organization (UKMTO)
- United Press International (UPI)
- U.S. Maritime Liaison Office (MARLO) Bahrain
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ)
- U.S. Department of State (DOS)
- U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)

(U) ICOD: 10 April 2013